

Move to The New Build—Message from Rachael Fidler:

I am writing to inform parents of the latest position regarding our move to the new Pathfinder building. The media release from the Isle of Wight Council, which the Governing Body has contributed to, sets out the position, which has now been reached, in the handover of the building.

Whilst there is still some work to do, progress has been significant and we are now in the position that we will be able to fully familiarise your children and the staff with the new building from the start of the new College year in September.

At this stage we are working with the Local Authority to produce a detailed transition plan, which will be published to all parents and staff in early July. At this time we will also be able to give you ample opportunity to view the building and receive detailed information on the key operating procedures with which your children and staff will need to be familiar with.

The information in this letter and the media release has also been posted on the college website. Both the Parent Council and the college will keep you further updated through the website and their newsletters.

I must also take this opportunity to inform you of a key change within the Governing Body. Alan Wells has resigned as Chair and from the Governing Body. We are sorry to see Alan leave us but thank him for all his previous support of the College. Following decision of the full Governing Body, I have been asked to take over the role of Chair until our September 2013 meeting, when there is the annual process of election of the Chair. The Governing Body will also shortly elect a new Vice Chair and once this Governor is known we will inform you.

I am sure that this information on the transfer to the new building will raise a lot questions, please do not worry, we will get back to you with any further information we can provide on an on-going basis. Finally can I thank you for your continued support of the college over the recent difficult period. The good news on the building looks to give us a positive start to the new College year in September.

Message from Alan Wells:

It is with some regret that I have to tell you that I have decided to step down from the Governing Body of the College. This is not a decision that I have made lightly, since the success of Cowes Enterprise College, in particular its students, is something that is close to my heart, and has been for many years. I feel that now is the right time to move on and allow others to take on the governance role, especially as I honestly believe that we are beginning to see the early signs of a successful future for the College.

We have been through probably the hardest time in the history of this school as it has transferred to an 11-18 college, has faced the disappointment of a long delay in the move into the new building, and has then been placed into special measures following last year's Ofsted Inspection, and lost our Principal.

But I am now confident that we are turning a corner. The appointment of Christine Hardman as Interim Executive Principal is making a really positive impact on the College, on the students, parents and staff, building confidence for the future. Progress on the new build has accelerated in the past few months and it hopefully won't be too long before the College can transfer across.

With some big changes in my personal circumstances in the last 18 months and with other commitments that I have here on the Island to which I need to give more time and effort, I believe that it is a good time to relinquish the reins. I wish the college, its staff and students all the success that they deserve in the exciting future they face and to you as parents, thank you for sticking with us through the difficult times.

Upcoming Events:

Monday 27th May until Friday 31st May—Half Term

Wednesday 29th May—'Bruce Bogtrotter Bake Sale' at Waterstone's (please see overleaf)

Wednesday 19th June—Global Rock Southern Final at Portsmouth Guildhall

Saturday 22nd June—History Trip to Kew Gardens and Hampton Court

Friday 28th June—Year 11 Prom at Landguard Manor

Morning Homework Club—For all ages from 8.00am until 8.30am in the LRC

Vivo Rewards:

Is your Village winning this week?

	Village	Points
1st	Britannia	5960
2nd	Enterprise	5654
3rd	Endeavour	5440
4th	Shamrock	4685

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers:

Thank you so much to everyone who has sent in their Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers so far, we have now passed the 6500 mark!

You can continue collecting them in Sainsbury's stores until Wednesday 22nd May, and they can be brought into the main Reception at the college until Friday 7th June at the latest.

College Achievements:

Ben Duggan has been selected to represent the IW Senior XI in a cricket match against the MCC next week and we would like to wish him the best of luck.

A group of 45 of our students travelled to Sandown Bay Academy to take part in the IW Track and Field Championships last week. The CEC team finished in 4th place overall, and the Y9 girls team did one better to finish 3rd place in their age group. Following their individual success, Levi Appell, Wilf Armfield, Michael Illot, Maddie Knowles, Jess Andrews and Lydia Hosland-Round have all made it into the consideration process and will be hoping to gain selection for the Isle of Wight team in the Hampshire Championships next month. Well done to all who took part!

After walking a long mile and slogging through the wind, rain and fog, the CEC team made it to the finish line with over £150 raised so far. A big thank you for the support from students and staff alike. The Just Giving page is still open and can be accessed at www.justgiving.com/Fiona-Ryan.

Host Families Required:

- Do you have a spare room?
- Do you have a caring, stable environment?
- Would you like to host an international student?

Students become part of your family while they are studying on the Island and EF are looking for host families. Financial help is given in the form of an allowance.

If you are interested, please contact Terry (the local EF co-ordinator) on 840216 or 07786 722 566, or via email at studentsolutions@hotmail.co.uk. More information can also be found on the EF website.

Bruce Bogtrotter Bake Sale:

Waterstone's have organised a fantastic event for half term for children of all ages to get involved in to raise money for the Children's Reading Fund, a fantastic charity that works to promote reading, writing and literacy as a route to personal development. On Wednesday 29th May from 11am until 2pm they will be holding a 'Bruce Bogtrotter Bake Sale'. If you would like to take part, you will need to bake some individual cakes to bring along and sell at 50p each. The seller who makes the most money will win a copy of the new 25th anniversary edition of 'Matilda', as well as Roald Dahl's 'Revolting Recipes'.

Message from Mrs Hardman:

Another busy week in Cowes and I cannot believe that it is Friday again. This is an extremely busy time at the College with the onset of examinations. The running of examinations is a bit of a logistical nightmare and I have been extremely impressed by the organisational skills of Mrs Burrows (Examinations Officer) and the way she has ensured that both staff and students know exactly where they are supposed to be.

Revision: Of course it is important that students take responsibility for their own learning as well as taking advice and guidance from their teachers and other adults. As parents we need to be supporting our children at this time and ensuring that they are revising properly at home. I have put a couple of resources on the 'Cloud' that could help students to plan their revision programmes over the next few weeks and over the half term holiday. There is also a little help sheet which shows some revision techniques that they can use. I have also uploaded the PowerPoint presentation that myself and Mrs Southwell prepared for the Y11 Parents Evening last week.

I would expect that students should be doing an average of a couple of hours per night of revision at this time of the year and if they say they do not have anything to revise then please direct them to www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize. We also have revision guides for sale at the college and staff will have given students revision guides for their subjects.

Half Term Revision Sessions: We will be running some revision sessions over the half term holiday and I would encourage all parents to ensure that they send their children along. We will be publishing a timetable with exact dates next week.

Mobile Phone Update: We have only had to confiscate 25 phones in total this week. Thank you very much for your support and well done to the students for responding so well. My target is for no phones to be confiscated next week!

Parent Forum: I enjoyed meeting you all at the Parent Forum this week and would encourage as many of you as possible to be involved in the informal body so that we can ensure that we are acting on parental concerns.

Thank You: To all parents who turned up to help us put together the picnic tables for the students. More help is needed next week please, and there is more information below about how you can help.

Attendance: This is a very big issue on the Island and we are working hard to ensure that students are attending college consistently well above 97%. Do you know what your child's attendance is? Please support Mrs Jupe (Senior Attendance Officer) in her endeavour to ensure that we are the best attended college on the Island and also well above the national average figure.

Recruitment of Teaching Staff: We have advertised nationally for an Assistant Principal for Inclusion, a Subject Leader for History and a Subject Leader for Modern Foreign Languages and will be interviewing potential candidates next week. I will keep you informed of our new appointees.

Have a lovely weekend!

Volunteers Sought:

In response to feedback from students, we have purchased 40 wooden picnic benches in order to provide more outdoor seating. Approximately half of these have been assembled by volunteer parents this week. If you are able to volunteer to assist next week to assemble the rest, please come along to the meeting space between the canteen and main hall next Tuesday and/or Wednesday between 5pm and 8pm. Additionally, if you are able to bring your own power screwdriver and 13mm socket and ratchet we can make even better progress. Thank you.

Attendance Reminder:

If your child is unwell, has an appointment or is absent without prior notice for any other reason, you must call the college **each and every day** your child is absent. Please call the absence line on 203101 before 8.30am, and leave a message with your child's name, year group and reason for absence. Evidence of any appointments should be forwarded to Mrs K Jupe, Senior Attendance Officer. Thank you.

Exam Arrangements:

All students who are taking formal externally set and marked exams (GCSEs, AS and A2) should keep to the following arrangements:

Until 24th May (Half Term) all students will be expected to attend their normal College timetable for all subjects. Where a subject is completed before 24th May, students are still expected to attend lessons in this subject where supervised revision/work should be carried out for other forthcoming exams.

From 3rd June, Year 10 students should continue to attend their normal timetabled Maths, English, Science and Games lessons. In subject areas where they have not completed their exams they should attend their normal timetabled lessons in these subjects. When exams have been completed, Year 10 students will begin preparation lessons for their new GCSE courses. Timetables will be provided next week. Obviously where exams take place they should take priority over timetabled lessons and students must attend their exams.

From 3rd June, Year 11 students should attend their normal timetabled lessons where they have not completed their course. This is an opportunity for revision and guidance.

When a current Year 11 student has completed all their examinations and assessments within a subject, there is no obligation for them to continue to attend College for those subjects. The expectation is that students will use this extra time at home to revise for other exam subjects. However, if a parent/carer would like their child at college, an alternative programme of activities can be provided. Please contact Mr Mason if this is the case.

From 3rd June, Year 12 students should still attend relevant lessons where they still have an examination to complete. There is no obligation for them to attend lessons when they have completed the course for a subject. The expectation is that students will use this extra time at home to revise for other exam subjects.

From 10th June, Year 12 should attend all their timetabled lessons in order to start their Year 13 subject material. It is unwise for students to drop a subject without knowledge of their results.

From 3rd June, Year 13 should attend lessons where they still have examinations to take in a subject. Once they have completed their examinations in a subject, there is no obligation for them to attend.

All Year 11 and 13 students need to complete a Leavers Form which should be returned to Mrs Jupe in the Attendance Office.

If you need any further information about exams, the exam timetable, the exam rules and regulations or any of the details above, please do not hesitate to contact the College and talk to Mrs Burrows (Examinations Officer) or Mr Mason (Senior Leader).

Students Taking Leave:

If you wish to remove your child from college during term time, you must apply using the appropriate Leave of Absence form (available from Reception and the Attendance Office) at least 6 weeks before the absence will commence. We are not currently approving absences during term time unless they are due to exceptional circumstances. Where possible, you should provide evidence to support your request. For example, if your child is taking part in an event, we would need a copy of the letter inviting them to attend, this includes any sporting activities that are not organised by the college.

If a student has attendance that is considered to be poor, we will not authorise the absence and may apply to the Education Welfare Service for the issue of a Fixed Penalty Notice if the absence is taken anyway. Please see the Leave of Absence forms for a full explanation.